

## **TOWN OF GRAND RAPIDS BOARD MEETING MINUTES September 10, 2008**

**Meeting Place:** Grand Rapids Municipal Building, 2410 48<sup>th</sup> Street South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI

**Present:** Chairman Don Bohn, Supervisors Arne Nystrom, Jeanne Fehrman, Bill Clendenning, and Edward Hellner; Treasurer Kristine Ginter, Clerk Judy McLellan, Building Inspector Lorelei Fuehrer, Fire Chief Scott Bernette and Police Chief Dave Lewandowski.

**Absent:**

**Excused:**

NOTE: ( ) indicates agenda item of when Board member joined the meeting.

*Notices of the meeting were legally posted at The Store in Kellner, the Grand Rapids Garage and the Grand Rapids Municipal Building, and published in the Daily Tribune.*

The Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Don Bohn.

1. **Approve minutes of August 12, 2008 Town Board Meetings.** Motion (Hellner/Fehrman) to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried.
2. **Application of Shane Benitz, 1311 45<sup>th</sup> St. S. for a C.U.P. for a videography home based occupation. .** Motion (Fehrman/Clendenning) to approve the application of Shane Benitz for a C.U.P for a videography home based occupation. Motion carried.
3. **Approval/Denial of Application for temporary class B liquor license for the Boys and Girls Club, Wine & Cheese Fund raiser.** Motion (Hellner/Nystrom) to approve the application for a temporary class B liquor license for the Boys & Girls Club, Wine & Cheese Fund raiser. Motion carried
4. **Discussion/Approval/Denial of continuing process to accept two small parcels of land from person who wishes to donate parcels to Town.** Attorney Jim Quinn addressed the board pertaining to cost and procedure of the town taking ownership of the parcels. The residents would have to give approval at the Annual Town Meeting in April for the parcels to be sold after being deeded over from the current owners. If this occurred the town would then request bids on the parcel to determine if the legal cost could be recovered. This will be addressed at the Annual Town Meeting if the current owners still wish to donate this property.
5. **Discussion of alleyway in Edgewood Acres Subdivision.** Attorney Jim Quinn addressed this issue. It was noted that the location of the stakes do not match the registered plat map. Attorney Quinn will further investigate the options available and procedure needed to address this situation. At a latter date the board will discuss how to proceed and at who's cost.
6. **Discussion/Approval/Denial of town purchasing tax parcel 07-03866 Wintergreen Village, Outlot 4, tax deeded property for sale by county.** Motion (Nystrom/Fehrman) to approve the purchase of parcel 07-03866 Wintergreen Village, Outlot 4 not to exceed \$200. Motion carried.
7. **Approval/Denial of two Public Works employees attending Winter Road Maintenance seminar October 23, 2008 in Tomah, WI.** Motion (Fehrman/Hellner) to approve two Public Works employees attending Winter Road Maintenance seminar October 23, 2008 in Tomah, WI. Motion carried
8. **Approval/Denial of Building Inspector attending Airport Operations & Land Use Seminar October 28, 29, 2008 at Hotel Mead.** Motion (Clendenning/Fehrman) to approve the Building Inspector and two others attending Airport Operations & Land Use Seminar October 28, 29, 2008 at Hotel Mead. Motion carried.
9. **Recycling & Garbage Committee's recommendation for next year's garbage/recycling contract.** The recycling & Garbage Committee was considering putting the garbage & recycling service up for bids. The current contract stated that a written letter must be received from the town 4 months prior to the end of the contract if the contract was to be cancelled. This was sent in case the bids received warranted the cancellation of the contract. Supervisor Clendenning stated that after the letter was received by Veolia they

contacted the committee to discuss cost saving measures. The general feeling of the board was that the committee should meet with Veolia and see what can be worked out for the future contract.

10. **Discussion/Approval/Denial of the town taking out a loan to cover new squad car, municipal building repairs and concrete approach work at Fire Station.** Chairman Bohn asked that the board consider taking out a loan for the above mentioned items. Treasurer Ginter stated that a 3 year loan could be obtained from the Government Loan system for 3.25%. The first payment would not be due until March 2010. Supervisor Nystrom suggested that the board consider getting prices for a new pickup truck for the Public Works crew in that the one is getting quite old. The replacement of the one loader was discussed also. Motion (Nystrom/Hellner) to table discussion until October meeting to allow the board time to check on the cost of pickup truck and time to consider taking out the loan for all items. Motion carried.
11. **Discussion on allowing residents to use breakaway markers to mark road edges for snowplowing.** Chairman Bohn he felt that there were two options for implementing this item. The board could change the ordinance to allow the placement of the markers or just change the snowplowing policy. He felt that the board would need to set guidelines as to the placement of the markers and have the town purchase the markers which would be bought by any resident that wanted to use them. The markers purchased through the town would be the only item allowed to be used as road markers for the winter season. The board will investigate the purchasing of these items and discuss at our next meeting.
12. **Approval of August disbursement vouchers.** No questions.
13. **Approval/Denial of Operators License Applications.** Motion (Hellner/Clendenning) to approve Operators License as presented. Motion carried.
14. **Monthly Reports from committees and departments.**
  - **Police Department:** Chief of Police Dave Lewandowski reported that there were 368 calls for service for the month of August. Two new part time officers have been hired and are in the process of being trained. National Waterski Tournament at Lake Wazeecha and the Balloon Rally both went very well. Chief Lewandowski has attended numerous meetings this last month. The department has been receiving complaints from citizens about speeding in certain areas of the town and we have been targeting these areas with radar and laser. After interviews and the recommendation of the Police & Fire Commission, Officer Wiltse has been promoted to the position of Sergeant with the Grand Rapids Police Department.
  - **Fire Department:** Chief Bernette reported that there were 5 calls since last meeting which consisted of 1 structure fire, 2 vehicle accidents, 1 grass fire, 1 RIT call. Training for the month of Sept. will be held on 9/15 jointly with the Biron Fire Department, this will allow both departments to review each others equipment. Grand Rapids will also have training on ground operations on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - **Safety:** Safety Director Scott Bernette reported that there have been no lost time injuries. Next safety meeting will be held September 17<sup>th</sup> consisting of flagging and traffic control.
  - **Public Works:** Chairman Bohn stated that the crew is working on Brookhaven subdivision and other small project at this time. The street sweeping of the roads that received the slag sealing should be completed this week. The intersection of 32<sup>nd</sup> Street and Washington will be closed September 11. This may be closed until October.
  - **Crime Stoppers:** Supervisor Arne Nystrom stated that Crime Stoppers will be hosting a Computer and Electronics Recycling Drive on September 25<sup>th</sup>, at the Shopko Plaza Mall from 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
  - **Airport Commission:** Supervisor Nystrom noted that the budget was completed for the Airport but we should see a small decrease in the cost to each municipality because Nekoosa has voted to rejoin the Airport Commission.
  - **Planning and Zoning:** Supervisor Fehrman stated that the Town has received a copy of a draft on the Hwy 54 expansion study. The Planning Commission is currently reviewing it and will be submitting their comments to be forwarded to the engineering firm that is doing the study. The Planning Commission would like the board to consider requiring performance or surety bonds for when some of the Conditional Use Permits are approved. They are seeing some nonconformance to the Conditional Use Permits. A new business, We Be Jammin, recently received a Land Use Permit to open in a rented building on Bohn Dr. The Commission has also asked the board to consider ordinances for special signs, such as upcoming events, and possibly an ordinance on recycling.

- **Building Inspector:** Building Inspector Lorelei Fuehrer stated that she is following up on remodeling and new homes. She stated that she is receiving a few calls on alternate energy sources.
- **Recycling and Garbage:** Supervisor Clendenning stated that the Committee is looking to hold an event similar to Rome's Choose to Re-Use. This will be a joint effort with Grant. Residents would be allowed to bring items to give away and would be able to take items that others bring free of charge. The specifics are still being worked on.

**15. Other Public Input**

None

Motion (Hellner/Fehrman) to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 8:24 p.m.

Minutes subject to board approval.

Respectfully submitted and approved  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2008

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Judy McLellan  
Town Clerk